

Poetry.

A YOUTHFUL HERO—A TRUE INCIDENT.

The Moloch of the battlefield had claimed his host of slain,
The wounded and the dying lay stretched upon the plain;
Only the surgeons' lanterns a distant glimmering made,
Showing them those who needed help, and those beyond their aid.
"Doctor,"—The voice was low and weak, but yet the doctor heard.
He turned, and saw a half-grown lad whose lips had framed the word.
"Oh, Doctor, I am wounded here; in that last charge I fell,
It matters not, the field is won, and will soon be well.
My hurt is but a trifling one, and yet I felt so weak
That when I tried to cheer I found that I could hardly speak."
The doctor stooped and saw the wound, then looked upon the youth.
"It is not very deep, my lad, but—would you know the truth?"
A sudden paleness of the face, a quick contracting brow,
And then he answered bravely, "I think I know it now.
How long have I to live?" he asked—his first emotion fled.
"If I should stay beside you now, a week," the doctor said.
"What needs it?" so the lad exclaimed, his hero soul awake,
"Your hand is wanted everywhere, and should I vainly take
Its services when all around our suffering soldiers lie?"
The doctor gravely touched his cap, and left him there to die.
* * * * *
In a far distant peaceful home a mother heard the tale,
And though it dimmed her loving eyes and caused her face to pale,
She proudly said: "He nobly fell; the gift I freely give;
He went to serve his native land, and died that she might live."
—Edmund Lyon.

Household.

POUND CAKE.

Two-thirds cupful of butter, two cupfuls sugar, seven eggs, one pint flour, one and one-half teaspoonful baking powder; flavor to taste.

SPONGE CAKE.

Two eggs, one and one-half cups of flour, two-thirds sweet milk, one-half of butter, one of white sugar, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, one-half of saleratus, one of lemon.

POTATOES WITH EGGS.

When you have mashed potatoes left from dinner, beat one well and mix with about a quart of potatoes, make out in small cakes and fry them a nice brown. Nice for tea or breakfast.

A DAINTY DISH.

This is for breakfast or lunch, and is made of slices of fresh, crisp toast, buttered very slightly. On each slice put salmon and cucumber, or cold meat and chutney; sprinkle with pepper and wrap each slice in a lettuce leaf that has been steeped in vinegar.

SNOW PUDDING.

Half a box of gelatine soaked in a half a pint of cold water for half an hour; then add one pint boiling water, two cups white sugar, and the juice of one lemon, and let it cool. Take the whites of three eggs beaten to a stiff froth, and beat all together for one hour and put in a mould to harden. Serve with boiled custard.

COTTAGE PUDDING.

One cupful sugar, two eggs, two cupfuls cream, one pint flour, one and one-half teaspoonfuls baking powder. Beat the eggs and sugar together; add cream, flour, with the powder sifted in, and pinch salt, mix into smooth batter as for cup cake; put into long, narrow or oval buttered mould, bake in hot oven over thirty minutes.

MAKING TEA.

After tea has been steeped in boiling water for three minutes over five-sixths of the valuable constituents are extracted. At the end of ten minutes the leaves are almost entirely exhausted. Prolonged infusion gives no additional strength to the liquid, but it does cause the loss, by volatilization, of the flavor-

ing principles. Hard waters are to be preferred to soft waters in the teapot, as the hard waters dissolve less of the tannin out of the leaves. The bearing of these laboratory results on the art of making a good cup of tea is obvious.

CURE FOR WARTS.

The juice of the common milk weed will generally cure warts on the hand or face. It is an inexpensive and painless application, and much preferable to cutting the excrescences out, which will not always extirpate them. It will probably serve the same purpose on the teats of cows, where warts often come and cause much inconvenience in milking.

USES OF AMMONIA.

A few drops of ammonia in hard water will not only soften it but will remove dirt better than soap. It is always a good article to use when bathing the person, and the water in which it is diluted makes an excellent stimulant to house and other plants. It is the slight trace of ammonia absorbed by Summer rains which makes these showers so helpful to all kinds of vegetables.

MUFFINS.

Three pounds of flour, one quarter pound of yeast powder, three eggs, half a pound of sugar, three ounces of butter. Mix the powder dry in with the flour; in another pan rub the sugar and butter well together, then add the eggs and beat to a thin batter; then add the flour and wet with milk; beat thoroughly; fill the rings and bake in a quick oven. These muffins are good cold as well as hot.

CURRANT CAKE.

Cream three ounces of butter with two ounces of powdered sugar and three eggs, one at a time, using one ounce of flour with each egg, and beat well until quite smooth. Add one ounce of citron, finely minced, and pour the mixture into buttered cups or moulds. Have an ounce and a half of currants nicely cleaned, and sprinkle them over the tops of the cakes. Bake in a moderate oven until light brown.

STEWED APPLES WITH RICE.

Scoop out the cores and peel some fine russett apples, and stew them in clarified sugar. Boil some rice in milk with a pinch of salt, a few strips of lemon peel and sugar enough to sweeten it. Leave on the fire until the rice is quite soft and has absorbed nearly all the milk, remove the lemon peel and place in a dish; arrange the stewed apples on the rice and put in the oven until it is of a pretty golden color.

COOKING ONIONS.

Different methods are recommended. Boiling in two waters well salted or letting them lie in cold water, is thought to be effective. Boiling in milk used to be thought the best way to remove the rank flavor, but the onions we are able to purchase now, even in the country, are not so strong in odor or taste as was the onion of our fathers. The Bermuda, the ideal onion of the Spanish, needs nothing beyond boiling in two waters.

ICED COFFEE.

One pound best coffee, one gallon of water, two quarts of milk, half pound of loaf sugar, rough ice and freezing salt. Boil the water and pour it over the ground coffee, which should be slightly warmed; allow it to stand for half an hour, then strain off the clear portion through a cloth, add the milk and sugar, then pour it into a freezer, pack the freezer well around with ice and salt, let it stand in ice about one hour before using. Serve the coffee in small cups.

CHICKEN PIE.

Cook and season the chicken, lay it in a baking dish, put pieces of butter on the chicken, thicken the gravy with one tablespoonful of flour to one quart of gravy; let it come to a scalding heat, pour over the chicken to just cover; have about two quarts of gravy, then have ready a nice crust, rolled a little thinner than for biscuit, cut places for steam to escape, lay the crust over the pie. With only one crust you will have a good, light one, thus avoid soaking the crust and also have plenty of gravy to serve with pie and potatoes.

A standing antidote for poison by poison-oak, ivy, etc., is to take a handful of quicklime, dissolve in water, let it stand half an hour, then paint the parts with it. Three or four applications, it is said, will cure the most aggravated cases.—N. Y. Herald.

HOLDING UP MILK.

Cows often indulge in this annoying practice, especially those for the first time milked. When the calf is removed from the cow, instinct leads her to thus endeavor to retain sustenance for her offspring. She would be a very unnatural mother did she not.

But, however philosophically a man tries to regard the matter, it is certainly annoying to be thus balked and hindered at his work. The motherly instinct of the cow may induce admiration in the disinterested spectator, but it must truthfully be said that it has not that effect upon the attendant. He does, in fact, often become very impatient, and sometimes extremely and unreasonably angry. This, of course, does him no manner of good, for his excitement and irritation seem to be contagious. The cow manifests her disapprobation and fear by stepping uneasily about, by which means, without being in the least vicious, she often brings down a torrent of wrath, imprecations, and blows from the exasperated milker.

If a young cow, this is a most serious mishap which is quite apt to result in that abomination—a chronic kicker. Lessons given at this impressive age are hard to efface. Much of the value of the cow depends upon her treatment at this time. The attendant may feel mad all over inside—he can hardly help it—but 'twon't do to show it. He must "smile and smile," even if he be "a villain still." Soft words and gentle touches go a long way, even with a dumb brute. Slivering a milking stool across the poor cow, never yet made the milk come down. Give her some nice mess that will occupy her attention while you gently draw the milk. She will soon grow to like the operation, and be pleased to see the milk pail coming. It is a relief to a cow to draw the milk from the udder, and with a fair chance she will always prove a firm friend of the milker.—W. D. Boynton, in Farmers' Call.

A GEORGIA HEROINE.

The Butler (Ga.) Herald says: One of those heroines of whom the world hears but little lives near Lexington, in this State. Her name is Sallie Handsfort. Her husband has been bedridden for 9 years with rheumatism, and she had four children—two boys and two girls—to support. Last year she bought 107 acres of land, much in original forest, and with the aid of the two boys, fourteen and fifteen years old, cleared five acres. She cut down the trees, rolled the logs, split the rails, built the fence and burned the brush with their help alone, and raised nine bales of cotton, also corn and peas enough for her own use, and paid her rent, her store account and \$40 on her land debt. She has bought her meat for this year and paid for it. In addition to this she has done her cooking, milked her cows, and gone to market with eggs, chickens and butter, selling enough to buy all the clothing needed for her family.

AN INDIAN BOY'S LOGIC.

A teacher in one of the Indian schools relates the following incident of an Indian boy's quick thought: He had asked the meaning of the word "miss." To miss, I told him, is the same as to fail. "You shoot at a bird or a mark, and do not hit it, you miss it. You go to a tailor's for a coat, and your coat fits badly, it is a miss-fit. You hope to enter the middle class next year, but you cannot pass the examination, and so you miss the promotion."

His face wore a puzzled air, and he shook his head.

"Then," said I, "there is another meaning of miss. We call a married woman madam, but an unmarried woman miss."

His face brightened. He smiled and nodded.

"Ah, I see," he said. "She has missed her man."

WHY BOBBY WENT TO BED.

"Pa," said Bobby, who had been allowed to sit up a little while after dinner, with the distinct understanding that he was to ask no foolish questions, "can God do everything?"

"Yes."

"Can he make a two-foot rule with only one end to it?"

"One more question like that," said the old man, "and you will be packed right off to bed."

Bobby nodded sleepily for ten minutes and then asked:

"Pa, can a camel go seven days without water?"

"Yes."

"Well, how many days could he go if he had water?"

The next thing Bobby knew he was in bed.—New York Sun.

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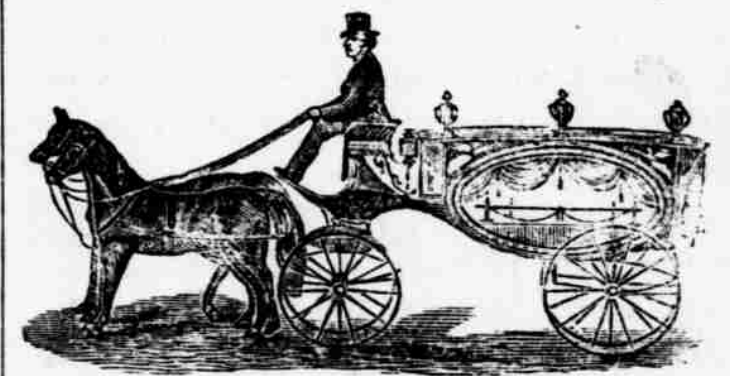
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3-3m.

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WHAT SHALL BE DONE?

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 1, 1885.

The situation of our Farmers, and more especially of those in the Eastern Counties, is a serious one. With cotton at 8½ cents and everything else in the same proportion, it is doubtful whether our people can make cotton at all with the old method. Thousands of thoughtful men all through the South are considering earnestly this question: WHAT SHALL BE DONE? With prices of their products way down and the prices of all they buy not reduced in the same proportion, what shall be done to feed the family, buy clothes and send the children to school during this New Year? All this time sensible men are cutting down every expense and resolving that they will make more at home. Milk, meat, vegetables must be made in larger quantities and groceries saved; corn, oats and grass must be provided for the horses, cows and hogs. High-priced fertilizers and every extra thing are entirely out of the question. The wise man will buy the cheapest and best ingredients only and make fertilizers at home this year.

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